

REPTILIA: TESTUDINES: KINOSTERNIDAE

KINOSTERNON SCORPIOIDES

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Berry, J.F. and J.B. Iverson. 2001. *Kinosternon scorpioides*.

***Kinosternon scorpioides* (Linnaeus)**
Scorpion Mud Turtle

Testudo scorpioides Linnaeus 1766:352. Type locality, "Surinam." Holotype, apparently lost (Smith and Smith 1979 [1980]).

Testudo tricarinata Retzius, in Schoepff 1792:9, Table 2. Type locality and holotype unknown.

Testudo Retzii Daudin 1802:171, 174. Type locality and holotype unknown.

Testudo Pensylvanica var.: Shaw 1802:61, Plate 15.

Emys Retzii: Schweigger 1812:231, 312, 434.

Emys scorpioidea: Schweigger 1812: 231, 312, 435.

Emys scorpioides: Oken 1816:347.

Terrapene tricarinata: Merrem 1820:28.

Chersine scorpioides: Merrem 1820:33.

Kinosternon longicaudatum Spix 1824:17. Type locality, "Braziliam" (Brasil). Cotypes: Zoologisches Sammlung des Bayerischen Staates in München (ZSM) 2375/0, an adult male in alcohol (figured in Spix 1824), and 3000/0, an adult male skeleton (date and collector unknown). ZSM 2375/0 was designated the lectotype by Hoogmoed and Gruber (1983) (examined by JBI).

Kinosternon brevicaudatum Spix 1824:18. Type locality, "fluminis Solimoëns" (= Río Solimoes, Brasil). Holotype unknown (Hoogmoed and Gruber 1983).

Kinosternon shavianum Bell 1825:302. Type locality and holotype unknown.

Terrapene scorpioidea: Fitzinger 1826:45.

Terrapene tricarinata: Gravenhorst 1829:16.

Cinosternon scorpioidea: Wagler 1830:137.

Cinosternon brevicaudatum: Wagler 1830:137.

Cinosternon Shavianum: Wagler 1830:137.

Cinosternon scorpioides: Wagler 1830: Plate V, Fig. XXXI, legend.

Kinosternon scorpioides: Gray 1831:34. First use of combination.

Urotyx scorpioides: Rafinesque 1832:64.

Monoclista retziana: Rafinesque 1832:64 (*nomen substitutum* for *Testudo retzii* Daudin).

Terrapene scorpioides: Schinz 1833:46.

Cinosternon Scorpioides: Duméril and Bibron 1835:363.

Clemmys (Cinosternon) scorpioidea: Fitzinger 1835:125.

Cinosternon scorpioideum: Fitzinger 1843:29.

Kinosternon scorpioides: Gray 1844:32. *Ex errore*.

Kinosternon scorpioides: Gray 1844:32. *Ex errore*.

Cinosternon cruentatum Duméril and Bibron, in Duméril and Duméril 1851:16. See subspecies synonymy.

Kinosternum longicaudatum: LeConte 1854:181.

Kinosternum scorpioides: LeConte 1854:181.

Kinosternum Mexicanum LeConte 1854:182. Type locality, "Mexico," restricted by Smith and Taylor (1950b) to "San Mateo del Mar, Oaxaca," México. Holotype, Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia (ANSP) 90, juvenile, collected by Mr. Pease (date uncertain)(examined by authors).

Kinosternum cruentatum: LeConte 1854:186.

Kinosternon cruentatum: Gray 1855:44.

Cinosternum scorpioides: Agassiz 1857:426.

Thyrosternum scorpioides: LeConte 1859:6.

Kinosternum triliratum LeConte 1859:6. Type locality, "Mexico," restricted by Smith and Taylor (1950b) to "San Mateo



FIGURE 1. Adult male *Kinosternon scorpioides* from Belize, Orange Walk Town District, in the vicinity of Orange Walk Town (photographs by John B. Iverson).



FIGURE 2. Adult male *Kinosternon scorpioides* from Costa Rica, Puntarenas Province, in the vicinity of Parrita (left; photograph by R. Powell); adult female *K. scorpioides* from Costa Rica, Guanacaste Province, at the junction of the Río Corobizi and the Pan American Highway (photograph by John B. Iverson).



FIGURE 3. Adult female *Kinosternon scorpioides* from Venezuela, Estado Cojedes, Municipio Cojedes Camoruro, Finca la Coromoto (photograph by John B. Iverson).

del Mar, Oaxaca," México. Holotype formerly in the ANSP, but now presumably lost, collected by Mr. Pease (date uncertain).

Thyrosternum longe caudatum: LeConte 1859:6.

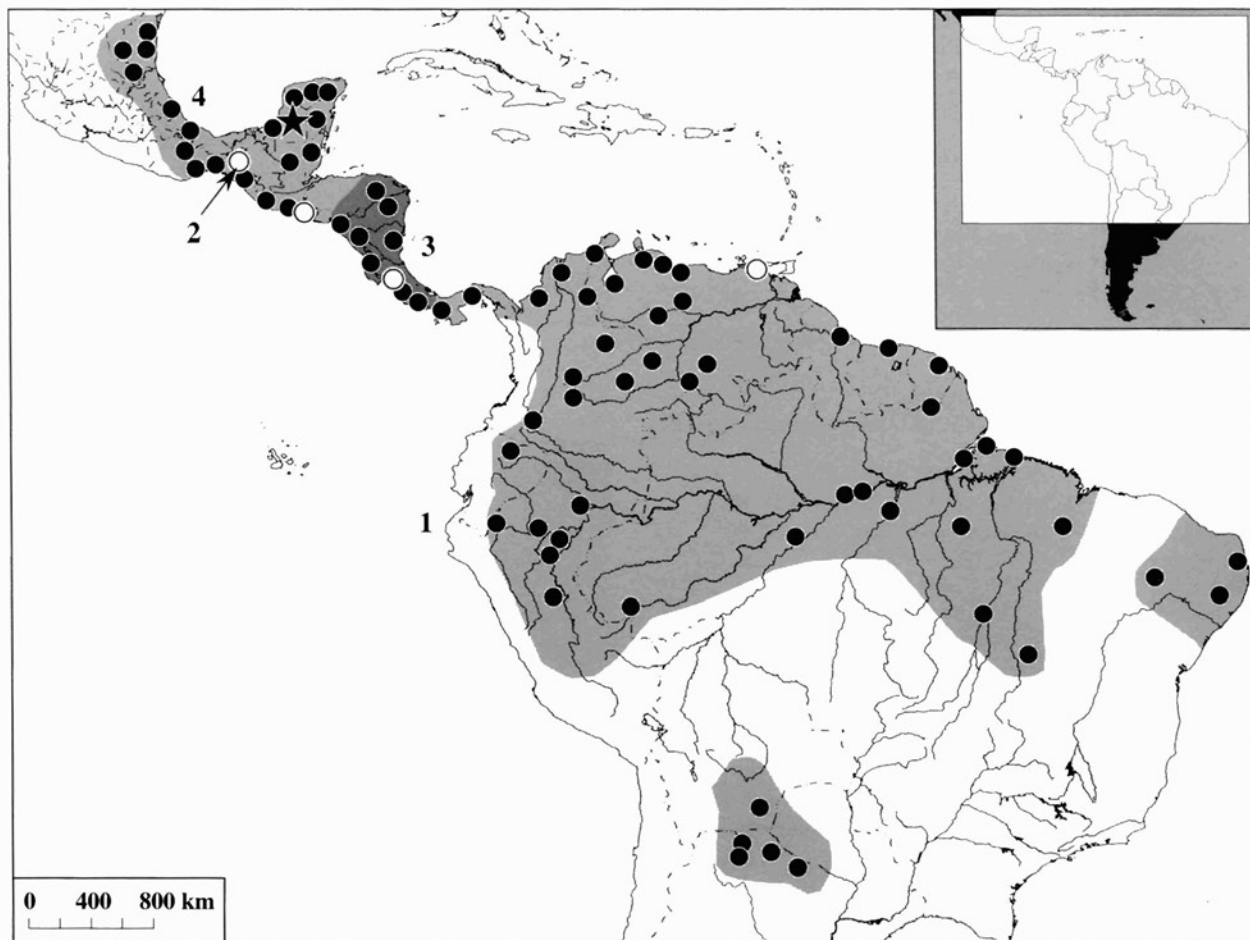
Cinosternum mexicanum: Strauch 1862:41.

Cinosternon triliratum: Strauch 1862:41.
Cinosternon longicaudatum: Strauch 1865:98.
Kinosternon mexicanum: Müller 1865:598.
Cinosternum shavianum: Cope 1866:123. Apparently a substitute name for *Kinosternum Mexicanum* LeConte; see discussion in Smith and Smith (1979 [1980]).
Swanka scorpioides: Gray 1869:181.
Cinosternon albugulare Duméril and Bocourt 1870:24. See subspecies synonymy.
Swanka mexicana: Gray 1870:69.
Swanka longicaudata: Gray 1870:69.
Swanka cruentata: Gray 1870:69.
Swanka trilirata: Gray 1870:69.
Swanka scorpioides: Gray 1873:301.
Cinosternum albugulare: Cope 1875:153.
Cinosternon Shawianum Bocourt 1876:387, 397–398. Apparently a substitute name for *Cinosternum shavianum* Bell; see discussion in Smith and Smith (1979 [1980]).
Cinosternon shawianum: Sumichrast 1880:169. *Ex errore*.
Cinosternon Shawianum: Sumichrast 1882b:34.
Thyrosternum cruentatum: Garman 1884:8.
Thyrosternum shavianum: Garman 1884:8.
Cinosternum leucostomum: Cope 1885:389 (part, Cozumel).
Cinosternum triliratum: Günther 1885:14.
Cinosternum integrum: Cope 1887:23 (part, Vera Cruz).
Cinosternum shawianum: Velasco 1892:80.
Kinosternon abaxillare Baur, in Stejneger 1925:462. See subspecies synonymy.

Kinosternon cruentatum: Dunn and Emlen 1932:25.
Kinosternon crenulatum: Pearse 1945:222. *Ex errore*.
Kinosternon panamensis Schmidt 1946:5. Type locality, "Panamá Railroad, C.Z. [Canal Zone], Panamá." Holotype: National Museum of Natural History (USNM) 117369 (formerly Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard University, MCZ, 7996; Cochran 1961), adult male in alcohol collected by Dr. Thomas Barbour, 10 June 1932 (examined by authors); placed into the synonymy of *K. s. scorpioides* by Berry (1979).
Kinosternon scorpioides: Zerecero y D. 1948:516.
Kinosternun cruentatum: Alvarez del Toro 1973:18. *Ex errore*.
Kinosternun abaxillare: Alvarez del Toro 1973:20. *Ex errore*.

• **CONTENT.** Four subspecies are recognized: *Kinosternon scorpioides scorpioides*, *K. s. abaxillare*, *K. s. albugulare*, and *K. s. cruentatum*.

• **DEFINITION.** *Kinosternon scorpioides* is a medium to large *Kinosternon*, with males in some populations exceeding 205 mm in carapace length, and females exceeding 180 mm. The carapace is moderately to strongly tricarinate in all but the oldest, largest individuals. The first vertebral scute is wider than long; vertebral scutes 1–4 have distinct posterior notches at the midline in all but the oldest, largest individuals. The tenth marginal scutes are higher than the ninth, and usually (73%) higher than the eleventh. The shape of the carapace is approximately oval; the margins are distinctly flared outward in some popula-



MAP. Distribution of *Kinosternon scorpioides*. Circles indicate type localities; note that the type (and only known) locality of *K. s. abaxillare* is within the range of *K. s. cruentatum*. Dots mark other records (some represent more than one proximate locality) and the star denotes a fossil locality.

tions, but only slightly flared or not flared in others. The carapace is highly variable in color, ranging from light brown to olive to black, with darker seams in all but the darkest individuals.

The plastron has two kinetic hinges, anterior and posterior to the abdominal scutes, and is concave to flat in males but slightly convex or flat in females. The plastron completely closes the shell in some populations but not in others, with adult males nearly always having a smaller plastron than females. The posterior lobe of the plastron bears little or no anal notch; if present, it is larger in males than in females. The interanal scute seam is long, averaging 30% of carapace length (19–39%), and the interpectoral seam is short or occasionally (27%) absent. The color of the plastron may be gray, yellow, orange, brown or black, usually with darker seams.

The dorsal head shield is rhomboidal, bell-shaped or triangular, but rarely v-shaped. The maxillary sheaths are weakly to very strongly hooked, more strongly hooked in older males than in females or younger individuals. The color pattern on the head is extremely variable, with a brown, gray, or black background and a reticulated or spotted pattern of cream, yellow, orange, pink, or red. The jaw sheaths are cream to yellow with darker vertical streaks most conspicuous in older males. The skin of other soft parts is gray or brown, usually with many small, darker spots. Three to four pairs of gular barbels are present, with the most anterior pair the largest. Elevated patches of horny scales (“clasping organs” or “vinculae”) are absent from the posterior thigh and leg of both males and females. Males have longer, more prehensile tails than do females; the cloacal aperture is at or posterior to the shell margin in males, but is anterior to the shell margin in females. The tails of both sexes have terminal spines, but the spine is larger in males.

• **DESCRIPTIONS.** General descriptions are in Alvarez del Toro (1960, 1973, 1982), Berry (1978), Boulenger (1889), Cabrera (1998), Casas Andreu (1965, 1967), Ernst and Barbour (1989), Hellmich (1958), Mertens (1952a), Mertens and Wermuth (1955), Müller and Hellmich (1936), Pritchard (1979a), Pritchard and Trebbau (1984), Rogner (1996), Siebenrock (1904, 1906, 1907, 1909), Smith and Smith (1979 [1980]), and Wermuth and Mertens (1961, 1977). Specific descriptions include comparisons with other *Kinosternon* (*K. alamosae*, Berry and Legler 1980; *K. angustipons*, Legler 1965; *K. creaseri*, Iverson 1988b; *K. chimalhuaca*, Berry et al. 1997; *K. dunni*, Schmidt 1947; and *K. oaxacae*, Berry and Iverson 1980), osteology (Rutimeyer 1873), skull structure (Siebenrock 1897; Kilias 1957), head muscles and laryngeal skeleton (Schumacher 1973), head muscles and nerves (Poglayen-Neuwall 1953), shell shape (Schubert-Soldern 1947), shell kinesis (Bramble et al. 1984), shell morphometrics (Acuña-Mesén et al. 1993), cervical vertebrae (Williams 1950), neural bone patterns (Iverson 1988a), bladder epithelium and cytochemistry (Polver and Novelli 1971), choanal structure (Parsons 1968; Parsons and Stephens 1967), lack of cloacal bursae (Smith and James 1958), penial morphology (Zug 1966), rostral pores (Winokur and Legler 1974), musk glands (Waagen 1972), and integumentary appendages (Winokur 1982).

• **ILLUSTRATIONS.** Color photographs are in Acuña-Mesén (1993, full body; 1998, anterolateral view), Alderton (1988, full body), Aria (1998, full body), Bonin et al. (1996, lateral view), Cabrera (1998, lateral and ventral views), Campbell (1998, lateral view), Cei (1993, dorsal view and head), Freiberg (1981, dorsal view), Koshikawa (1996, lateral view), Lee (1996, 2000; lateral and full body views), Magnan and Maran (1999, full body), Métrailler and Le Gratiet (1996, biotope, lateral and ventral views, hatchling and hatching egg), Mueller (1998, head

and full body), Murphy (1997, lateral full body view), Norman (1994, lateral view), Pritchard (1967, 1979a; dorsal view), Pritchard and Trebbau (1984, dorsal and ventral views of series, and color painting of adult), Rogner (1996, dorsal view), Rudloff (1990, female nesting), Stafford and Meyer (2000, anterolateral view), and Vanzolini et al. (1980, anterodorsal view). Black and white photographs are in Acuña-Mesén et al. (1983, dorsal and ventral views; 1993, bony elements of the shell), Alvarez del Toro (1960, 1973, 1982; dorsal views), Berry (1978, dorsal, ventral, and lateral views, and head), Berry and Legler (1980, dorsal, ventral, and lateral views, and head), Casas Andreu (1967, dorsal and ventral views), Church (1963, lateral view), Ernst and Barbour (1989, dorsal views), Ewert (1991, embryo at pipping), Freiberg (1936, 1977, dorsal and ventral views; 1972, dorsal views; 1981, dorsal and ventral views), Garrison (1971, lateral and ventral views), Gijzen and Wermuth (1958, dorsal, ventral, and lateral views), Killebrew (1975, chromosomes), Mertens (1952a, dorsal view), Métrailler and Le Gratiet (1996, hatchling and kyphotic adult), Mudde and Van Dijk (1984, dorsal view), Nemuras (1967, anterolateral view and ventral view of neonate), Nöllert (1987, lateral view), Pritchard (1964, lateral and ventral views; 1967, dorsal view; 1979a, dorsal and ventral views), Richard et al. (1990, dorsal and ventral views, and head), Rust (1938, dorsal and ventral views), Sexton (1960, male and female mating behavior), and Vanzolini et al. (1980, dorsal and lateral views). Black and white photographs in Boulenger (1914, labelled “*Cinosternum cruentatum*”) are actually *Kinosternon leucostomum*. Black and white drawings are in Acuña-Mesén (1998, dorsal and ventral views), Bramble et al. (1984, pelvis, and posterior plastron and hinge), Cabrera (1998, dorsal, ventral, and lateral skull, dorsal and ventral bony shell), Cunha (1970, dorsal, ventral, lateral, anterior, and posterior views of the shell, and ventral views of the skull of male and female), Duméril (1852, lateral and ventral views), Freiberg (1936, 1977; bones of the shell), Günther (1885, lateral, dorsal, and ventral views of male, female, and hatchling), Métrailler and Le Gratiet (1996, dorsal and ventral views), Müller and Hellmich (1936, ventral view), Pritchard and Trebbau (1984, dorsal and ventral views of bony shell, and dorsal, ventral and lateral views of skull); Schubert-Soldern (1947, dorsal and lateral views of skull and head), Shaw (1802, dorsal view), Siebenrock (1898, hyoid apparatus; 1907, ventral view of skull), Smith and Smith (1979 [1980], dorsal, ventral, and lateral views of the shell from Wermuth and Mertens 1961, and dorsal and ventral views of the shell from Günther 1885); and Wermuth and Mertens 1961 (dorsal, ventral, and lateral views of shell and skull).

• **DISTRIBUTION.** *Kinosternon scorpioides* occurs in a variety of permanent, semipermanent, and temporary aquatic habitats, primarily at lower elevations throughout its range. It apparently reaches its northernmost limit in the Río Soto la Marina drainage in Tamaulipas, México, occupying Gulf of Mexico drainages (seaward of the Sierra Madre Oriental; Iverson and Berry 1979, Seidel 1976) southward to the Isthmus of Tehuantepec and the Península de Yucatán of México and Belize, and on Isla Cozumel. This species occurs in Caribbean drainages in Honduras and Nicaragua (but not Costa Rica or eastern Panamá), and on Isla de San Andres, Colombia. In Pacific drainages, it occurs from the Río Tehuantepec southward throughout Central America to Panamá. In South America, *K. scorpioides* is apparently restricted to Atlantic drainages, where it is common in most coastal lowland drainages in northern and eastern South America. It is apparently rare at most inland localities as reported by Duellman (1978) in Ecuador and Dixon and Soini (1977) in Perú, although significant inland populations occur on Serra Norte, a 700-m plateau in the Serra dos Carajas in Pará,

Brasil, and the upper Río Paraná Basin (Gran Chaco) of northern Argentina and southern Bolivia. The general distribution of *Kinosternon scorpioides* was discussed by Berry (1978), Ernst and Barbour (1989), Iverson (1986, 1992), Pritchard (1967, 1979a), Pritchard and Trebbau (1984), Rogner (1996), and Smith and Smith (1979 [1980]). Additional distributional information is available for México (Alvarez del Toro 1982; Barrera 1963; Berry and Legler 1980; Berry and Iverson 1980; Berry et al. 1997; Campbell 1998; Casas Andreu 1965, 1967; Cochran 1961; Davis 1953; Dixon et al. 1972; Duellman 1965; Dugés 1894, 1896; Dundee et al. 1986; Gadow 1905; Gaige 1936; Greene 1972; Hartweg and Oliver 1940; Iverson and Berry 1979; Lee 1980, 1996, 2000; Martin 1955, 1958; Nelson and Nickerson 1966; Pearse 1945; Pérez-Higareda 1980; Schmidt and Shannon 1947; Siebenrock 1906; Smith 1938; Smith and Taylor 1950a, 1950b; Taylor 1952; Velasco 1892; and Williams and Wilson 1966), Belize (Allen and Neill 1959; Henderson and Hoevers 1975; Iverson 1976; Neill 1965; Sanderson 1941; Schmidt 1941; Stafford and Meyer 2000), Guatemala (Campbell 1998; Stuart 1935, 1948, 1954, 1963), Honduras (Dunn and Emlen 1932; Meyer 1966, 1969; Meyer and Wilson 1973; Werner 1896; Wilson et al. 1979), El Salvador (Mertens 1952a, 1952b; Rand 1957), Nicaragua (Köhler 1999), Costa Rica (Acuña-Mesén 1990, 1993, 1998; Acuña-Mesén et al. 1983; Heyer 1967; Savage 1974; Scott and Limerick 1983; Teska 1976; Wettstein 1934), Panamá (Busack 1966; Dunn 1933; Moll and Legler 1971; Schmidt 1946; Swanson 1945), West Indies (Dunn and Saxe 1950; Schwartz et al. 1978; Schwartz and Henderson 1988, 1991; Tamsitt and Valdivieso 1963; Valdivieso and Tamsitt 1963), Colombia (Dahl and Medem 1964; Dunn 1945a, 1945b; Dunn and Saxe 1950; Medem 1957, 1958, 1960, 1962, 1965; Methner 1989; Nemuras 1967, 1968; Orces 1949; Ruthven 1922; Tamsitt and Valdivieso 1963; Valdivieso and Tamsitt 1963), Perú (Dixon and Soini 1977; Duellman and Salas 1991), Ecuador (Duellman 1978; Orces 1949), Venezuela (Fiasson 1945; Larrea 1948; Mijares-Urrutia and Arends 1992, 2000; Pritchard and Trebbau 1984; Staton and Dixon 1977; Test et al. 1966), Trinidad (Murphy 1997), Guyana (Beebe 1919; Pritchard 1989); French Guiana (Métraiiller and Le Gratiet 1996), Brasil (Cabrera and Colantonio 1997; Cunha 1970; Cunha et al. 1985; Fróes 1957; Lima-Verde 1991; Luederwaldt 1926; Magnusson et al. 1998a, 1998b; Medem 1960; Schmidt and Inger 1951; Vanzolini et al. 1980), Bolivia (Müller and Hellmich 1936), Surinam (Lampe 1901), Argentina (Cabrera and Colantonio 1997; Ceí 1993; Freiberg 1936, 1967, 1977; Hellmich 1958; Richard 1990; Richard et al. 1990; Richard and de la Fuente 1992), Paraguay (Aquino et al. 1996; Norman 1994), and South America (Cabrera 1995, 1998; Freiberg 1981).

• **FOSSIL RECORD.** Fossil material apparently attributable to *Kinosternon scorpioides* is known from the Pleistocene of Yucatán, México (Kuhn 1964, Langebartel 1953, Mlynarski 1976, the latter apparently referring to Langebartel 1953). Langebartel (1953) indicated that these fossils might be *K. creaseri* (see also Iverson 1983).

• **PERTINENT LITERATURE.** General reviews are in Acuña-Mesén (1993, 1998), Berry (1978), Ernst and Barbour (1989), Pritchard (1979a), Pritchard and Trebbau (1984), Rogner (1996), and Smith and Smith (1979 [1980]). Other important references are **habitat** (Alvarez del Toro 1960, 1973, 1982; Cunha 1970; Casas Andreu 1965, 1967; Duellman 1965, 1978; Dundee et al. 1986; Himmelstein 1981; Iverson 1988b; Kearney 1972; Lacépède 1788; Legler 1990; Métraiiller and Le Ministério do Interior Instituto Brasileiro 1989; Gratiet 1996; Norman 1994; Pritchard and Trebbau 1984; Sumichrast 1880, 1882a, 1882b), **presence in markets** (Mittermeier 1970), **use in Mayan medi-**

cine (Carr 1991), **epizootic algae** (Dixon 1960), **longevity** (Biegler 1966; Bowler 1977; Conant and Hudson 1949; Flower 1925, 1937; Jarvis 1966; Mariani 1935; Mertens 1970; Slavens and Slavens 1994), **size and growth** (Pritchard and Trebbau 1984), **zoo holdings** (Lucas and Biegler 1971, Pawley 1971, Slavens 1976, Slavens and Slavens 1994), **ecology** (Acuña-Mesén 1990, 1993, 1994; Acuña-Mesén et al. 1983; Cabrera 1995), **feeding** (Himmelstein 1981, Monge-Nájera and Moreva-Brenes 1987, Vanzolini et al. 1980), **diet** (Fiasson 1945, Fretey 1977, Himmelstein 1981, Moll 1990, Vanzolini et al. 1980), **biomass** (Iverson 1982), **activity** (Fretey 1977, Kearney 1972), **terrestrial movement** (Larrea 1948, Mudde and Van Dijk 1984, Teska 1976), **arboreality** (Sanderson 1941), **predators** (Pritchard and Trebbau 1984), **sexual dimorphism** (Acuña-Mesén and Márquez 1993, Berry and Shine 1980, Pritchard and Trebbau 1984), **population size and density** (Dean 1980, Moll 1990), **reproduction** (Alvarez del Toro 1973, 1982; Castillo-Centeno 1986; Ceí 1993; Ewert 1979; Fretey 1976, 1977; Goeldi 1897, 1906; Goode 1991, 1994; Iverson 1999; Lardie 1983; Lucas et al. 1972; May 1985; Métraiiller and Le Gratiet 1996; Moll 1979; Norman 1994; Rocha and Molina 1990; Sachsse 1976; Sexton 1960), **egg shape** (Iverson and Ewert 1991), **temperature-dependent sex ratio** (Ewert and Nelson 1991), **developmental arrest** (Ewert 1991), **captive intergrades** (Mertens 1972), **parasites** (Alho 1965; Caballero y Caballero and Branes 1958; Caballero y Caballero and Zerecero y D. 1954; Caballero y Caballero et al. 1957, 1959; Hughes et al. 1941, 1942; Mane-Garzon and Holcman-Spector 1968; Plimmer 1913; Yamaguti 1958; Zerecero y D. 1948), **zoogeography** (Berry 1978, Gallardo 1979, Lee 1980, Pritchard 1979b, Pritchard and Trebbau 1984, Rivero-Blanco and Dixon 1979), **phylogeny** (Bramble et al. 1984; Iverson 1988a, 1991, 1998; Seidel et al. 1986), **skeletal mass** (Iverson 1984), **chromosomes and karyotypes** (Barros et al. 1972; Bickham and Baker 1976; Bickham and Carr 1983; Bull et al. 1974; Gilboa 1975; Killebrew 1975; Sites et al. 1979; Moon 1972, 1974), **retina** (Heinemann 1877), **blood and blood proteins** (Crenshaw 1962; Frair 1972, 1977; Sullivan and Riggs 1967a-c), and **vernacular names** (Campbell 1998, Casas Andreu 1967, Fróes 1957, Iverson 1985, Liner 1994, Medem 1957, Mittermeier 1970, Mittermeier et al. 1980, Pritchard and Trebbau 1984, Rust 1938, Vanzolini 1958).

• **ETYMOLOGY.** The specific name *scorpioides* is derived from the Latin *scorpio*, a noun of masculine gender, meaning "scorpion" (and probably derived from the Greek words transliterated as *skorpion* and *scorpions*). Linnaeus presumably applied the name with reference to the horny spine at the tip of the tail, such that *scorpioides* means "like" or "similar to" a scorpion (Smith and Smith 1979 [1980]). The name *abaxillare* is a descriptive adjective derived from the Latin *axillares*, referring to the axilla (axillary scute, in this case), and preceded by the prefix *ab* meaning "without;" hence, "without an axillary scute." The name *albogulare* is derived from the Latin *gulares* meaning "of the throat," and preceded by the prefix *albo* from the Latin "*albus*" meaning "white," presumably pertaining to the immaculate chin and throat in many specimens. The name *cruentatum* is a Latin adjective meaning "besmirched with blood," with reference to the bright red or orange coloration on the heads of many individuals, especially adult males.

1. *Kinosternon scorpioides scorpioides* (Linnaeus)

Testudo scorpioides Linnaeus 1766:352. See species synonymy. *Kinosternon longicaudatum* Spix 1824:17. See species synonymy.

Kinosternon brevicaudatum Spix 1824:17. See species synonymy.

Cinosternon brevicaudatum: Wagler 1830:137.

Kinosternum longicaudatum: LeConte 1854:181.

Cinosternum scorpioides scorpioides: Siebenrock 1907:576.

Cinosternum scorpioides integrum forma *brasiliensis* Siebenrock 1907:579 (*nomen illegitimum*). Type locality, "Brasilien und Bolivian." Type locality and holotype unknown.

Kinosternon scorpioides seriei Freiberg 1936:169. Type locality, "El Tabacal (Salta)," Argentina. Holotype, Museu Argentino de Ciencias Naturales, Buenos Aires (MACN) 1247, an adult female collected by Dr. S. Mazza (not examined by authors); placed into the synonymy of *K. s. scorpioides* by Cabrera and Colantonio (1997).

Kinosternon scorpioides pachyurum Müller and Hellmich 1936:100. Type locality "Villa Montes," Bolivia. Syntypes, Zoologisches Sammlung der Bayerischen Staaten in München (ZSM) 129/1928a, a male, and 129/1928b, a female, collected in 1926 by Dr. Lindner or M. Kiefer (not examined by authors); placed into the synonymy of *K. s. seriei* (*sic*) by Berry (1978, 1979). Two additional syntypes (ZSM 128/1928a and 128/1928b), mentioned in the original description, were apparently lost during World War II. Data accompanying ZSM 129/1928a refer to it as the lectotype (U. Gruber, pers. comm.), although this designation has apparently not been published.

Kinosternon panamensis Schmidt 1946:5. See species synonymy.

Kinosternon scorpioides scorpioides: Mertens and Wermuth 1955:337. First use of combination.

Kinosternon scorpioides panamense: Mertens and Wermuth 1955:338.

Kinosternon scorpioides integrum: Fröes 1957:7 (part, Brasil).

Kinosternon scorpioides carajasensis Cunha 1970:4. Type locality, "compartimento da serra dos Carajás (serra Norte Pará)," Brasil. Holotype, Museu Paraense Emílio Goeldi (MPEG) 15, adult male collected by O. Cunha in May 1969 (not examined by authors); placed into the synonymy of *K. s. scorpioides* by Cunha et al. (1985).

• **DEFINITION.** This subspecies has a moderately to strongly tricarinate carapace that is somewhat depressed (shell height is 35% of carapace length in males, 38% in females). Head markings consist of yellow, pale gray, or pale brown dots or reticulations on a darker brown, gray, or olive background. The plastron is intermediate to small in size, and does not completely close the ventral openings of the shell (width of posterior plastral lobe averages 38% of carapace length in males, 41% in females; bridge length averages 24% of CL in males, 27% in females; and interabdominal seam length averages 26% of CL in males, 29% in females). Axillary scutes are in contact with the inguinal scutes. The posterior plastral lobe bears a shallow posterior notch that is more emarginate in males than in females.

2. *Kinosternon scorpioides abaxillare*

Kinosternon abaxillare Baur, in Stejneger 1925:462. Type locality, "Tuxtla [Gutiérrez], Chiapas, Mexico." Holotype, National Museum of Natural History (USNM) 7518, shell of an adult male, collected by Dr. C.H. Berendt, apparently in 1863 or 1864 (see Smith and Smith 1979 [1980]) (the holotype is lost, but the authors have examined USNM 7519–29, the paratypes; Cochran 1961).

Kinosternon abaxillare: Alvarez del Toro 1973:20. *Ex errore*. *Kinosternon scorpioides abaxillare*: Berry 1979:3186 (also Ernst and Barbour 1989). First use of combination.

• **DEFINITION.** This subspecies has a strongly tricarinate carapace in all but the oldest, largest individuals. The shell is somewhat depressed (shell height averages 38% of carapace length

in males, 39% in females). Head markings consist of yellow, cream, or pale gray dots or reticulations on a gray or olive background. The plastron is extensive, and usually completely closes the ventral openings of the shell (width of posterior plastral lobe averages 48% of carapace length in males, 48% in females; bridge length averages 28% of CL in males, 30% in females; and interabdominal seam length averages 31% of CL in males, 33% in females). Axillary scutes are absent, or the axillary-abdominal scute seam is incomplete in most individuals. The posterior plastral lobe bears only a tiny posterior notch, or more typically none at all.

3. *Kinosternon scorpioides albogulare*

Cinosternon albogulare Duméril and Bocourt 1870:24. Type locality, "S. [San] Jose (Costa Rica)." Holotype, Museum Natural d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris (MNHN) 1760, a juvenile in alcohol, collector and date unknown (examined by JBI).

Cinosternon albogulare: Cope 1875:153.

Kinosternon cruentatum: Dunn and Emlen 1932:25.

Kinosternon cruentatum albogulare: Wettstein 1934:14.

Kinosternon scorpioides albogulare: Dunn and Saxe 1950:145. First use of combination.

• **DEFINITION.** This subspecies has a moderately to strongly tricarinate carapace, with a relatively high shell (shell height is 41% of carapace length in males, 46% in females). Head markings consist of yellow, cream pink, or orange dots or reticulations on a brown or gray background. The plastron is extensive, and usually completely closes the ventral openings of the shell (width of posterior plastral lobe averages 47% of carapace length in males, 50% in females; bridge length averages 25% of CL in males, 28% in females; and interabdominal seam length averages 28% of CL in males, 30% in females). Axillary and inguinal scutes are usually (86% of individuals) in contact. The posterior plastral lobe bears only a tiny posterior notch, or more typically none at all.

4. *Kinosternon scorpioides cruentatum*

Cinosternon cruentatum Duméril and Bibron, in Duméril and Duméril 1851:16. Type locality, "Amér. septentr.," restricted by Smith and Taylor (1950b) to "San Mateo del Mar, Oaxaca," México. Holotype, Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris (MNHN) 1759, a subadult female in alcohol, collector and date of collection not known (examined by JBI).

Kinosternum Mexicanum LeConte 1854:182. See species synonymy.

Kinosternum cruentatum: LeConte 1854:186.

Kinosternum cruentatum: Gray 1855:44.

Kinosternum triliratum LeConte 1859:6. See species synonymy.

Kinosternon mexicanum: Strauch 1862:41.

Cinosternon triliratum: Strauch 1862:41.

Kinosternon mexicanum: Müller 1865:598.

Swanka mexicana: Gray 1870:69.

Swanka cruentata: Gray 1870:69.

Swanka trilirata: Gray 1870:69.

Thyrosternum cruentatum: Garman 1884:8.

Cinosternum leucostomum: Cope 1885:389 (part, "Cozumel Island").

Cinosternum integrum: Cope 1887:23 (part, "Vera Cruz").

Cinosternum shawianum: Velasco 1892:80.

Kinosternon cruentatum: Dunn and Emlen 1932:25.

Kinosternon cruentatum cruentatum: Wettstein 1934:14–15 (by implication); see also Schmidt (1941).

Kinosternon cruentatum consors Stejneger 1941:458. Type locality, "Cozumel Island, Yucatan, Mexico." Holotype, Na-

tional Museum of Natural History (USNM) 13912, a female (not a male, as stated in original description), collected in 1885 by U.S. Fisheries Commission personnel (examined by the authors). Duellman (1965) rejected the validity of *K. s. consors*.

Kinosternon crenulatum: Pearse 1945:222. *Ex errore*.

Kinosternon cruentatum: Alvarez del Toro 1973:18. *Ex errore*.

Kinosternon scorpioides cruentatum: Berry 1979:3186 (also Berry and Legler 1980). First use of combination.

• **DEFINITION.** This subspecies has a strongly tricarinate carapace in all but the oldest, largest individuals. The shell is relatively high (shell height averages 43% of carapace length in males, 46% in females). Head markings consist of yellow, orange, or red dots or reticulations on a darker brown, gray, or olive background. The plastron is extensive, and usually completely closes the ventral openings of the shell (width of posterior plastral lobe averages 47% of carapace length in males, 48% in females; bridge length averages 29% of CL in males, 31% in females; and interabdominal seam length averages 26% of CL in males, 28% in females). Axillary scutes are rarely in contact with inguinal scutes. The posterior plastral lobe bears only a tiny posterior notch, or more typically none at all.

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